

# PROPOSAL ABSTRACT

**Applicant Name:** Powell County

**Project Title:** Johnson Creek Greenway, Deer Lodge, Montana

Powell County is seeking \$608,014.88 over a one year period to construct approximately 2 miles of recreation trail along Johnson Creek and to build an Outdoor Native Education center along Cottonwood Creek. This project originated from ideas discussed at several Upper Clark Fork Community Restoration and Redevelopment Plan meetings, where community members expressed a great interest in additional recreational and educational opportunities for residents of Deer Lodge and surrounding communities. This is a project the community will take pride and ownership in over the years to come, which provides both short and long-term benefits to the community. There are numerous community members supportive of this project, including, school teachers, the superintendent of schools, the school board, mayor, city council, county commissions, the WRC, community members, CFWEF, Clark Fork Coalition, County Planner, Park Service and the Deer Lodge Conservation District. All these entities working together will ensure a successful project now and in the future.

The two main goals of this project are to enhance natural resource-based recreational and educational opportunities associated with the clean up and restoration of injured natural resources in the upper Clark Fork valley for residents of, and visitors to, the Deer Lodge valley. Actions developed to implement these goals include designing and constructing a recreation trail along Johnson Creek that connects to an Outdoor Native Education Center to be designed and constructed along Cottonwood Creek. These actions seek to create and enhance recreational and educational opportunities equivalent to those that were lost and replace lost services by building a recreation trail and Outdoor Native Education center.

The Johnson Creek trail will be constructed along the north side of Johnson creek, starting at Main Street, continuing through JC Park and north through private ownership until reaching county property just south of Indian Creek Campground. The Outdoor Native Education Center would be designed and constructed on 1.5 acres of Powell County High School property, directed adjacent to the VO-AG center on Cottonwood Street. The Deer Lodge community is in need of community parks and trails for residents to promote healthy lifestyles and enjoy the beauty of the outdoors. The Outdoor Native Education Center would provide requested educational opportunities for both children and adults to understand the ecosystem in relation to cleanup activities and encourage participation in the process.

Connected via trail to the Outdoor Native Education Center would be a fishing access that is handicap accessible and safe for children with parent supervision. There has been a great need expressed for a local fishing access in town that is accessible by wheelchair. This location would provide access as well as parking.

Existing recreational opportunities in the Deer Lodge valley include Arrow Stone Park on the south side of town. There are currently CTEP funds available that are being used to design additional trails along the river that would be constructed after clean-up efforts along this section of river. The purpose of the Johnson Creek trail and the Outdoor Native Education Center is to add on and enhance existing recreational and educational opportunities that have been lost due to resource damages in the upper Clark Fork valley.

One design goal of the Johnson Creek recreation trail is to connect with the proposed community trail at the Grant Kohrs Ranch and create a loop that connects the north interchange and the south interchange, potentially increasing the number of visitors to Deer Lodge each year. The Johnson Creek trail will be an important connector, providing a continuous loop between the north and south ends of town for pedestrians and bicycle traffic that is safe and free of vehicle traffic.

The Outdoor Native Education Center will not only be used to educate school aged children, but as a community park where anyone from the community can recreate and enjoy educational opportunities. Many community members have expressed interest as using the education center as a recreation experience, due to the fact that the center will be connected to the Johnson Creek Recreation Trail. The uses for this education center are limitless and reach beyond strictly natural resources. Ideas have included: art, drama, nature therapy, community service, senior exercise programs and continuing education. Public outreach efforts can identify and help develop programs that capture the needs of all different walks of life in the community.

PROJECT BUDGET SUMMARY FORM									
EXPENSE CATEGORY		UCFRB RESTORATION FUND	APPLICANT CONTRIBUTION			OUTSIDE SOURCES			TOTAL
			Cash	In-Kind	Subtotal	Cash	In-Kind	Subtotal	
1	SALARIES AND WAGES	\$89,948.99							\$89,948.99
2	FRINGE BENEFITS								
3	CONTRACTED SERVICES	\$348,176.67				\$453,631.00	\$24,000.00	\$477,631.00	\$825,807.67
4	SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS								
5	COMMUNICATIONS								
6	TRAVEL	\$3,337.00							\$3,337.00
7	RENT AND UTILITIES								
8	EQUIPMENT								
9	MISCELLANEOUS	\$166,552.22				\$1,350.00		\$1,350.00	\$167,902.22
TOTAL		\$608,014.88				\$454,981.00	\$24,000.00	\$478,981.00	\$1,086,995.88

In electronic form this spreadsheet will automatically calculate the expense totals from the following Budget Detail Form.